Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 00519 121257Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
----------128086 121258Z /53
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 545
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 519

EXDIS TREAT AS NODIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM LEWIS; WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV PBOR EG IS US
SUBJ: AGENDA FOR JERUSALEM MEETINGS: NEXT STEPS

REFS: (A) STATE 8304, (B) TEL AVIV 479, (C) CAIRO 1126

1. AGREE THAT FUTURE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE PUT TO PARTIES AS U S REFORMULATIONS. IF EILTS THINKS SADAT COULD ACCEPT MY "BARE BONES" FORMULA (REF B), I CAN SAY WITH ASSURANCE NOW THAT BEGIN WILL ACCEPT IT.

2. RE PARA THREE REF A. DONT FORGET WHAT ENORMOUS IMPORTANCE BEGIN ATTACHES TO THE TERM "PEACE TREATIES." YOU CANNOT USE IT TOO OFTEN IN ANY DOCUMENT FOR HIM. I FRANKLY DO NOT REMEMBER BEGIN'S HAVING TAKEN POSITION "THAT THERE IS NO ONE TO SIGN A TREATY WITH ON THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM." WHAT HE TAKES ISSUE WITH IS USE OF SUCH PHRASES AS "THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM," WHICH AS I POINTED OUT IN REF B HE INSISTS ON DISAGGREGATING INTO THE WEST BANK/GAZA ON ONE HAND AND THE REFUGEE PROBLEM ON THE OTHER. I DO NOT THEREFORE AGREE WITH

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YOU THAT MY FORMULATION FOR A WOULD LEAD BEGIN TO REFUSE TO INCLUDE ANY REFERENCE TO THE WEST BANK AND GAZA IN A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. HE WILL NOT ACCEPT THE USE OF THE PHRASE "PALESTINIAN PROBLEM" IN ANY CASE. MUCH LESS "IN ALL ITS ASPECTS."
IF YOU FEEL YOU HAVE TO DROP THE WORD "TREATIES", WHICH I DO NOT RPT NOT ADVISE, I BELIEVE HE MAY ACCEPT

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"A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT" IN A. TO MAKE IT PERHAPS EASIER FOR HIM, WE MIGHT TRY " A DECLARATION OF THE PRINCIPLES WHICH WOULD GOVERN THE NEGOTIATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST, TO BE EMBODIED IN PEACE TREATIES."

3. AS FOR B, I DO NOT THINK BEGIN WOULD HAVE A PROBLEM WITH "THE GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO THE WEST BANK AND GAZA." (ALTHOUGH HE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAGGLE WITH ME OVER "JUDEA, SAMARIA, AND GAZA") HOWEVER, HE MAY FIND THIS TOO RESTRICTIVE SINCE IT WOULD APPARENTLY PRECLUDE DISCUSSION IN JERUSALEM OF "GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATION" RELATING TO ANY OF THE POLITICAL ISSUES INVOLVED IN SINAI. MY STRONG PREFERENCE WOULD BE TO STICK TO THE ANODYNE "THE GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATIONS," WHICH IT SEEMS TO ME OBVIOUSLY RELATES TO THE BROADER FRAME WORK DESCRIBED ABOVE IN A, BUT IMPLIES MORE SPECIFIC NEGOTIATIONS GETTING INTO DETAILS.

4. C LOOKS TO BE OKAY, AND WE SHOULD NOT TAMPER WITH IT.

5. 5. SINCE BEGIN HAS MADE QUITE CLEAR THAT HE WANTS TO TALK TO DAYAN BEFORE DISCUSSING THIS AGAIN WITH ME, I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET ANY AUTHORITATIVE REACTION BEFORE THE AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 13.
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6. SINCE BOTH HERMANN AND I ARE CONFRONTING SOME EXPERTS IN LEGAL EXEGESIS, FEELING IS THAT WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE VERY SIMPLEST FORMULATIONS POSSIBLE, MERELY TO GUIDE THE WORK OF THE MEETINGS. THERE ARE REALLY THREE ELEMENTS: A DECLARATION OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES, MORE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS, AND THE ELEMENTS (OR SPECIFIC CLAUSES) THAT SHOULD GO INTO PEACE TREATIES. THE FURTHER WE STRAY AWAY FROM THESE OPERATIONAL TERMS THE MORE WE COMPLICATE OUR LIFE. I WOULD HOPE THAT BOTH EILTS AND I CAN GET SADAT AND BEGIN TO SEE IT THIS WAY.
FROM THE U.S. POINT OF VIEW, THE UTMOST SIMPLICITY SHOULE MEET OUR BASIC OBJECTIVES.
LEWIS

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